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(54) Title: USE OF PLEIOTROPHIN IN THE DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT AND PREVENTION OF DISEASE

(57) Abstract: Described herein are methods for transdifferentiating monocytes/macrophages into endothelial cells, based on the inventors' identification of pleiotrophin ("PTN") as the gene responsible for this transdifferentiation. Further described are therapeutic methodologies for the promotion or inhibition of neovascularization based on modulation of PTN.

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